

March 14, 1991

FmHA AN No. _2248 (1955)

SUBJECT: Deficiency Judgments on Insured Loans

TO: State Directors, District Directors, and County Supervisors

PURPOSE/INTENDED OUTCOME: To emphasize Farmers Home Administration's (FmHA) policy for obtaining deficiency judgments on insured loans.

COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS AN: This AN replaces AN No. 2078 which expires on March 31, 1991.

IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITIES: A decision must be made as to whether to seek a deficiency judgment when (1) a borrower voluntarily liquidates the security property, but the sale fails to pay the debt in full; (2) the security property is voluntarily conveyed to FmHA, but the borrower is not released from liability; or (3) a loan is being referred to the Office of General Counsel (OGC) for liquidation. Authority to seek a judgment is provided in FmHA Instruction 1955-A, paragraph 1955.15(b)(2), for foreclosure action and FmHA Instruction 1962-A, paragraph 1962.49, for other actions.

Judgments may be taken against the borrower, a co-borrower or a co-signer. In States where nonjudicial foreclosure is the normal method of foreclosure, State law may require the foreclosure to become a judicial process in order to obtain a deficiency judgment.

It is the policy of FmHA to seek a judgment when there is a reasonable chance of future collection from the judgment of all or part of the debt. This decision will be based on a thorough evaluation of the borrower's present and future financial condition. Items to be considered are:

- 1. The applicable statute of limitations. Consult your regional attorney;
- Availability of other assets, especially real estate, which is not security for the FmHA debt;
- 3. Age and health of debtor;
- 4. Future earning capacity as indicated by the debtor's education and training;
- 5. Inheritance prospects;

EXPIRATION DATE: March 31, 1992

FILING INSTRUCTIONS: Preceding





- 6. The possibility of concealed or improperly transferred assets; and
- 7. In nonjudicial States, the additional costs, including accrued interest and property maintenance, which may be incurred if judicial foreclosure is required.

Deficiency judgments in those cases handled by the Department of Justice (DOJ) are collected by DOJ rather than FMHA employees. Any debt settlement offers for judgment debts must be made to DOJ rather than to FMHA.

LA VERNE AUSMAN Administrator